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PHIL WEIDMAN: WR: 18, 22, 24, 26, 27/28, 33ss, 35, 39, 43, 46, 49, 51, 53, 58, 64, 68, 69wa, 72, 76, 79cb, 80, 81/82, 88, 89, 93, 96, 99, 101.

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#### CUT

slice index  
finger tip on  
paper edge  
sharp as a  
knife blade.  
stick finger  
in mouth &  
swear into  
the wound.  
a disabled  
index finger  
unbalances a  
person, short  
circuits the five  
fingered hand.

#### BALANCE

if equilibrium is  
key to keeping  
body upright  
& head straight  
I still need help.  
today rasped, filed  
sanded & taped  
old mop handle  
into walking stick  
to balance body.  
for head I'm  
trying Updike  
& French brandy.

#### NUMBERS GAME

wounded middle  
aged man lines  
chair up with  
numbers board  
in Kaiser pharmacy.  
want to see my  
number when it  
comes up he says  
to old guy  
in next chair.  
something symbolic  
in that says  
old guy gently.

#### NEXT BEST

born with balls  
I don't wear  
ear rings or  
skirts or fiddle  
with men but  
I'm womanly  
in my desire  
to give birth.  
minus a womb  
I settle for  
next best: ideas  
in form of  
a drawing  
a poem  
a prayer.